



**Commonwealth of Kentucky
Cabinet for Health and Family Services**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Doug Hogan
502-564-7042, ext. 3467

**First Lady Glenna Bevin, State Employees Spread
Holiday Cheer**

L&N Building Hosts Holiday Celebration

FRANKFORT, Ky. (Dec. 20, 2018) – First Lady Glenna Bevin joined staff at the Department for Community Based Services (DCBS) in the L&N Building in Louisville to spread Christmas cheer. The community celebration included pictures with Santa, cookies, candy canes, and cider. Families also were able to take home enough food items to prepare a traditional Christmas meal.

“Every family should be able to have a good meal together at Christmas,” First Lady Bevin said. “This mobile food bank and the fun we had today were meant to make the holiday brighter for these families.”

DCBS, part of the Kentucky Cabinet for Health and Family Services (CHFS) and the state agency responsible for social services like child and adult protection and enrollment in child care, food benefits and cash assistance programs, coordinated the event with Dare to Care Food Bank.

“Governor and First Lady Bevin have a sincere passion for improving Kentucky families, and it shows through the First Lady warmly connecting with so many of them on their visit to our offices,” added DCBS Commissioner Eric Clark. “Partnerships like this not

only offer seasonal joy and nutritious meals, they also show how agencies working together can improve communities, one family at a time,” he said. “Working together, we can recognize needs and more easily fulfill them. When we bring together our resources, the result is better service.”

The First Lady also announced that beginning in February, the Dare to Care Food Bank will set up a Mobile Pantry once a month in the parking lot at the L&N building. Dare to Care will provide meat, dairy, vegetables, fruit and other items. The Mobile Pantry will begin delivery food on Feb. 28 and then the fourth Thursday of each month.

Dare to Care is a Louisville nonprofit agency with a mission to lead the community to feed the hungry and conquer the cycle of need. Dare to Care distributed 19.9 million meals to the Louisville area community in the last 12 months and distributes daily meals to 35 Kids Cafes in neighborhood locations and provides Backpack Buddy weekend nutrition programs in 42 elementary schools.

Brian Riendeau, Executive Director of Dare to Care, said collaborative efforts help his agency reach many more families in need.

“Tens of thousands of our neighbors struggle to put food on their family table,” he said. “Dare to Care’s vision of a Hunger-free Kentuckiana is only possible with the support of committed partners like the Cabinet for Health and Family Services.”

More than 200 families visited the event and received meal kits. Business partners, including Kroger and Family Allergy & Asthma, along with L&N employees and other CHFS staff made generous monetary donations cover the cost of the holiday celebration. Event organizers want to sincerely thank everyone for donating their time, talents, energy and money to this celebration.

CHFS produced a video story about this event. It’s available on the Cabinet’s Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/kychfs/>. Additionally, unedited video and b-roll elements of this and other stories are available for unrestricted media use at the CHFS MediaLink channel on YouTube:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC99OwJNHHYu9ve13279wllg>. Media members can freely use any of the material on our MediaLink site for use in their own stories.

Learn more about DCBS programs and assistance at chfs.ky.gov.

-30-

The Cabinet for Health and Family Services is home to most of the state's human services and healthcare programs, including the Department for Medicaid Services, the Department for Community Based Services the Department for Public Health, the Department for Aging and Independent Living and the Department for Behavioral Health, Developmental and Intellectual Disabilities. CHFS is one of the largest agencies in state government, with nearly 8,000 full- and part-time employees located across the Commonwealth focused on improving the lives and health of Kentuckians.